

MOVING SPIRIT

October, 1997

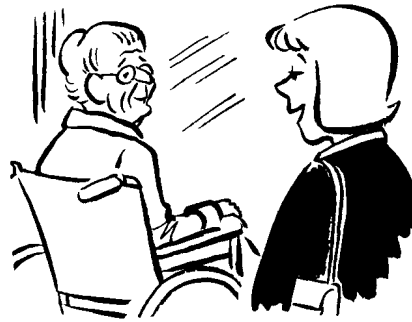
Eskaton Village Community Church

Pastor's Parcel

The cartoon at the side is so true. I don't play tennis myself, but I have seen in observing tennis games how the serve is crucial. If we want to "win" in this life, we must learn to "serve well." I'm not talking about winning our way to Heaven. Jesus won our way to Heaven by a service that only He could perform when He died on the cross for our sins. Faith in His death and resurrection sets us on our way to Heaven. But the way of *heavenly living* is a life of service, and Jesus asks us to follow Him in it.

Useful service is enjoyable, but it also outlasts its own enjoyment. Counselors often direct depressed people to get their minds off their own problems by helping meet others' needs. The joy that comes from serving can heal depression. Also, when we serve by helping others in practical ways, many times, long after we have finished our service, the others are still benefitting from the time and effort we invested in them.

When serving gets difficult, we may need to remember that there are eternal rewards for earthly service in the name of Christ. This should not be our main motivation, but it often cheers our path when many unpraised and unrecognized sacrifices are made in quiet, unnoticed forms of service. It will be enough for us



The Power of Service

Life is like tennis; the player who serves well has a good chance of winning.

someday to hear from the lips of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord."

Let God lead you in ways that you can serve others. Look for opportunities here at Eskaton Village: there are many! You will be happy, and so will others.

--Pastor David

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Parish Proclamations

Sermon Tapes

The tape library no longer functions, but sermon copies are still available through Arcade Wesleyan Church's tape ministry. Tapes with a sermon on each side are \$2.00 each. A list of sermon titles, dates preached, and envelopes for orders will

be available at the church service each Sunday.

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Prayer Chain

A prayer chain is a way to have many prayers go up for special or emergency needs, when they arise. If you would like to be involved in this important ministry, contact Louise Gedeon.

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Large-Print Devotional Bibles

It sure is strange how the more years you read your Bible the smaller the print gets on the pages! For those of you who need a large-print Bible, Pastor's David has a few copies of the *NIV Devotional Bible for Seniors* from his summer camp book table. They come in dark blue bonded leather covers only. See a sample copy on the entrance table at church, and let him know if you want one. They are \$25.00, marked down from \$49.50.

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Lodge Escorts

Some living in the Lodge would enjoy attending EVCC's service on Sundays but need someone to escort them there and back each week. We have started a "match-making" program to meet this need. If you are willing to volunteer to serve in this way, or know of someone in Assisted Living who wants to attend church, please let Anna Dowdle or Kay Taylor know. They will arrange "matches" as the need is made known and volunteers are available. We will arrange beforehand with the staff in the Lodge to screen which residents there can safely attend.

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Poems Between Heaven and Hell

Some of you have been waiting for Pastor David's first book of poetry to be reprinted. They are now available at \$10 each. Those interested should leave a note in the EVCC mail box, or call the church office (487-5123) to reserve one or more copies.

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People's Pulpit

Hope

(shared during a church service)

I have dreamed many dreams that did not come true; but I have had enough dreams come true to make me believe in dreams, and to keep on dreaming.

I have prayed many prayers that seemed unanswered but enough of my prayers have been answered to make me forever believe in prayer and to keep on praying.

I have trusted many a person who failed me. But I have found enough true friends to make me forever believe in humanity and to keep on trusting and serving.

I have sowed many seeds that fell on stony ground and were devoured by the birds. But I have held in my arms enough golden sheaves to make me believe forever in the harvest and to keep on sowing.

I have fought many a battle and lost it. But I have won enough battles to make me forever believe in the possibility of victory, and to keep on fighting for the right.

I have spoken many words that should not have been spoken. But enough of my

words have touched human hearts to make me forever believe in witnessing and to keep forever at it.

I have seen Jesus my Lord seem to lose many a battle. But I have seen enough of His triumph to make me forever believe in His Divine Sovereignty and to follow Him forever and forever. --J.B. Richards

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Pithy Pieces

Probably the greatest need of the world today is for reconciliation. In order to establish a good relationship with others one must first admit his full share of responsibility; and if one has been wronged then he must be willing to forgive unconditionally--for partial forgiveness is not forgiveness at all.

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You can spend so much time fretting about the past and things that cannot be changed, and worrying about the future and things which may never happen, that you lose the joy and fullness of the now, the present.

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Praise's Portion

Praise Him in the morning
Ere the sun shows forth its light,
Praise Him in the noontime,
When the day is at its height.
Praise Him in the evening
As the sun sets in the west,
Praise Him through the night hours,
And in His Presence rest.

--Louise Lee Winchip

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God Is Near

I will not fear
Though all my dreams
Come shattering down around my feet,
For God is near.

I will hold on
To Him

Who helps me

Rise above life's stormy sea.

I'll trust His grace

To keep me in my darkest hour.

I will not fear,
For God is near.

I see a light

A wondrous, bright and shining light

That lights my way

To see the path ahead.

This light of love and grace

Just seems to cover me.

I know no fear, for God is near.

--Shirley W. Langley

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He is ahead of you---as your shepherd
He is behind you---as your rearguard
He is above you---as your covering
He is beneath you---as your foundation
He is beside you---as your friend
He is within you---as your life --from *The Joyful Journey*, by Barbara Johnson

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Prayer's Priorities

"You speak in my heart and say, 'Seek my face.' Your face, Lord, will I seek."

--Psalm 27

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Keep us, O God, from pettiness: Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed. Grant that we may realize it is the little things that created differences; that in

the big things of life we are at one.
And may we strive to touch and to
know the great common human heart of
us all. Amen, amen.

---Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots (in
prison before her beheading)

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I'm told it's Thee in me
that turns me to Thee in prayer.

--As the ocean in the wave
pulls it back inexorably to itself;
And if it doesn't return, but stays on
shore

dawdling in pools and puddles,
It soon dries up, scumming and rotting
in the heat of the day--

Killing the life it used to support.
So turn me, Lord--and ever make me
feel the pull;

Let Thine undertow draw me back
day by day and hour by hour
into the fullness of Thine ocean's love;
Then fling me, refreshed and
strengthened,

Back again against the shore
to do Thy holy will.

--Elizabeth D. Meagher, Easter 1985

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Generous God, You grant us bread for
our bodies and grace that is renewed
every day. In these uncertain times,
help us to trust You more fully, living
one day at a time, loving and serving as
we can. Cheer our hearts with the
knowledge that we are precious to You,
through Jesus our Christ. Amen.

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Give us a pure heart

That we may see Thee,
A humble heart
That we may hear Thee,
A heart of love
That we may serve Thee,
A heart of faith
That we may live Thee.

--Dag Hammarskjöld

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Poetry's Place

O God, I love to see the morning sun.
To see it light the brightening eastern sky.
And wonder as it brings the light, just why
We're all so blessed when each day is done.

I see Thy hand in every day begun.
I see Thy Spirit in each things we try,
In all the things that walk and swim an fly.
Thy fingers trace where rivers run.

Let me, O Lord, whatever is Thy will
Just understand Thy voice, however still.

Let me see the things that I should do
To bring some love and joy before I'm through.

I'll never stand where any saints have trod;
Just let me do Thy will each day, O God.

-- Joe Taylor

(Kay Taylor's husband)

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Pearls of Prudence

We wouldn't worry so much about what
other people think of us if we knew
how seldom they did.

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If you are not generous with a meager
income, you will never be generous
with abundance. --Harold Nye

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Happiness is not a state we arrive at,
but a manner of traveling.

--Margaret Lee Runbeck

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Don't Quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes
will,

When the road you are trudging seems all
uphill,

When the funds are low and the debts are
high,

And you want to smile but you have to
sigh,

When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest, if you must—but don't you quit!

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometime learns,

And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it
out;

Don't give up, though the pace seems
slow—

You might succeed with another blow....

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Precious Principles

When we are in the presence of another
person, we're on Holy Ground; God is at
work in that person, too.

--Eugene Peterson

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A good rule for going through life is to
keep the heart a little softer than the
head. -- *Changing Times*

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All our progress is an unfolding, like the
vegetable bud. You have first an instinct,
then an opinion, then a knowledge, as the
plant has root, bud, and fruit. Trust the

instinct to the end, though you can render
no reason.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

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The spectrum of love has nine
ingredients:

Patience: "Love suffereth long."

Kindness: "And is kind."

Generosity: "Love envieth not."

Humility: "Love vaunteth not itself, is
not puffed up."

Courtesy: "Doth not behave itself
unseemly."

Unselfishness: "Seeketh not her own."

Good Temper: "Is not easily provoked."

Guilelessness: "Thinketh no evil."

Sincerity: "Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but
rejoiceth in truth."

Patience; kindness; generosity;
humility; courtesy; unselfishness; good
temper; guilelessness; sincerity--these
make up the supreme gift, the stature of
the perfect man. you will observe that all
are in relation to men, in relation to life,
in relation to the known today and the
near tomorrow, and not to the unknown
eternity. --Henry Drummond

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In Memorium

As many of you know, our dear friend
and brother Joe Lanphier, who passed
away in August, did not want a large
memorial service or funeral.
Accordingly his beloved wife Betty had
a small family gathering at which I was
able to participate. In my message I
brought out the point that we often say
things at memorials, but it would be nice
to hear what the departed had to say. I
had written a poem years before that has

been used in several memorial services. This was the first time I had used it in one. I believe it is what Joe and many other saints who have gone on before us would say to us in their departure for heavenly glory. I would like to share it with you:

LET'S MEET AGAIN

We feel the winds of change at play--
They blow our crossing paths astray.
Now, I must leave with this goodbye:
"Let's meet again beyond the sky..."

The superficiality
That marks our contact commonly
Leaves this regret: we seldom bare
Our hearts to one another's care.

The mist down here that clouds our eyes
Will vanish just beyond the skies,
And those we only knew in part
Will be known fully, heart to heart.

We always say to those we've met
Who go away, "I won't forget."
But earthly years come in between
And friendships past seem like a dream.

But on that day when journeys end
And we take flight on high, my friend,
As clear as crystal we will know
The souls we've walked with here below.

Be ready then to meet the One
Who gave us life and gave His Son,
The Prince of peace, who holds the key
To where we spend eternity.

Please, be there at the meeting place
Beyond the realm of time and space
Where, with all earthly partings done
In love and light we'll live as one.

-- David L. Hatton (from *Poems
Between Heaven and Hell*)

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Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them." --Rev 14:13